



Don't Palm Us Off

Act4Nature
Activity Book



Don't Palm us Off!

Background

Did you know that palm oil is found in more than 40 per cent of food products on supermarket shelves and more than 85 per cent of palm oil comes from oil palm trees grown in Malaysia and Indonesia? Conservationists estimate the equivalent of 300 football fields are deforested in south-east Asia every hour for palm oil production.

The Orang-utan is in trouble, there are only about 30,000 Bornean Orang-utans and as few as 7,000 Sumatran Orang-utans surviving in the wild. The United Nations has warned that Orang-utans could be extinct within a generation if we don't act quickly. Yet we're continuing to clear their rainforest habitats in Sumatra and Borneo for timber - then turning their forests into palm oil plantations.

Palm oil and palm kernel oil is in a surprisingly wide range of everyday products. These include biscuits, crackers, chocolate, ice cream, margarine, bread, batteries, chips, washing powders, shampoo, soap and other skin care and beauty products, plus pet food and even lots of products sold in health and natural food stores.

Australia imports more than 130,000 tonnes of palm oil per year, but by the time it has made its way into products on supermarket shelves it's very difficult for shoppers to even know it's there!

That's because there's no legislative requirement for manufacturers to label palm oil in food products and usually palm oil is incorrectly listed as "vegetable oil" (wrong, it comes from fruit!).

Classroom Pledge!

Take the classroom pledge at
www.act4nature.org.au to...

**Complete a Postcard Signature
Drive in your school**

Aiming to collect as many names
and signatures to send to FSANZ to let
them know you want the right to
choose food products that won't
destroy orang-utan habitat



Word Search



See if you can find and circle all these words!

Orangutan
Palm oil
Plantation
Deforestation
Labelling
Rainforest
Extinction
Elephant
Tiger
Rhino



Supermarket
Choice
Petition
Wildlife
Products
Environment
Endangered
Habitat
Products
Unsustainable

Crack the Code



Don't Palm us Off!

Decode the secret message to find out why the Orang-utans desperately need our help

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Take the Quiz

1) What does orang-utan mean?

- A) Red haired man
- B) Hairy ape
- C) Tree swinger
- D) Man of the Forest

2) How much, to the nearest percentage, does our DNA match that of an orang-utan?

- A) 99
- B) 97
- C) 91
- D) 84

3) Orang-utans, chimpanzees and the gorilla are 3 of the 4 great apes. What is the fourth?

- A) baboon
- B) Gibbon
- C) Mandrill
- D) Bonobo

4) Which two islands are home to the orang-utan?

- A) Borneo and Sumatra
- B) Sumatra and Papua New Guinea
- C) Java and Sumatra
- D) Borneo and Java

5) Male orang-utans from one of their island homes can be distinguished from those from the other. How?

- A) Number of teeth
- B) Enlarged arms
- C) Enlarged cheeks
- D) Eye colour

6) Many young orang-utans are stolen from the wild. Why?

- A) To be used for meat
- B) To be kept as pets
- C) To be used on space flight
- D) To be made into coats

7) Where do orang-utans sleep?

- A) Nests
- B) Burrows
- C) Caves
- D) Forest clearings

8) True or false - orang-utans are a critically endangered species.

9) How long do orang-utans live?

- A) 20 years
- B) 45 years
- C) 100 years

10) How long do baby orang-utan live with their mothers?

- A) 2 years
- B) 8 years
- C) 12 years

11) What do orang-utans eat?

- A) Fruit
- B) Fish
- C) Birds

12) How big do orang-utan grow?

- A) 2 metres tall
- B) 1.5metres tall
- C) 50cm tall

13) How many Sumatran orang-utans are left in the wild?

- A) 7,000
- B) 10,000
- C) 20,000

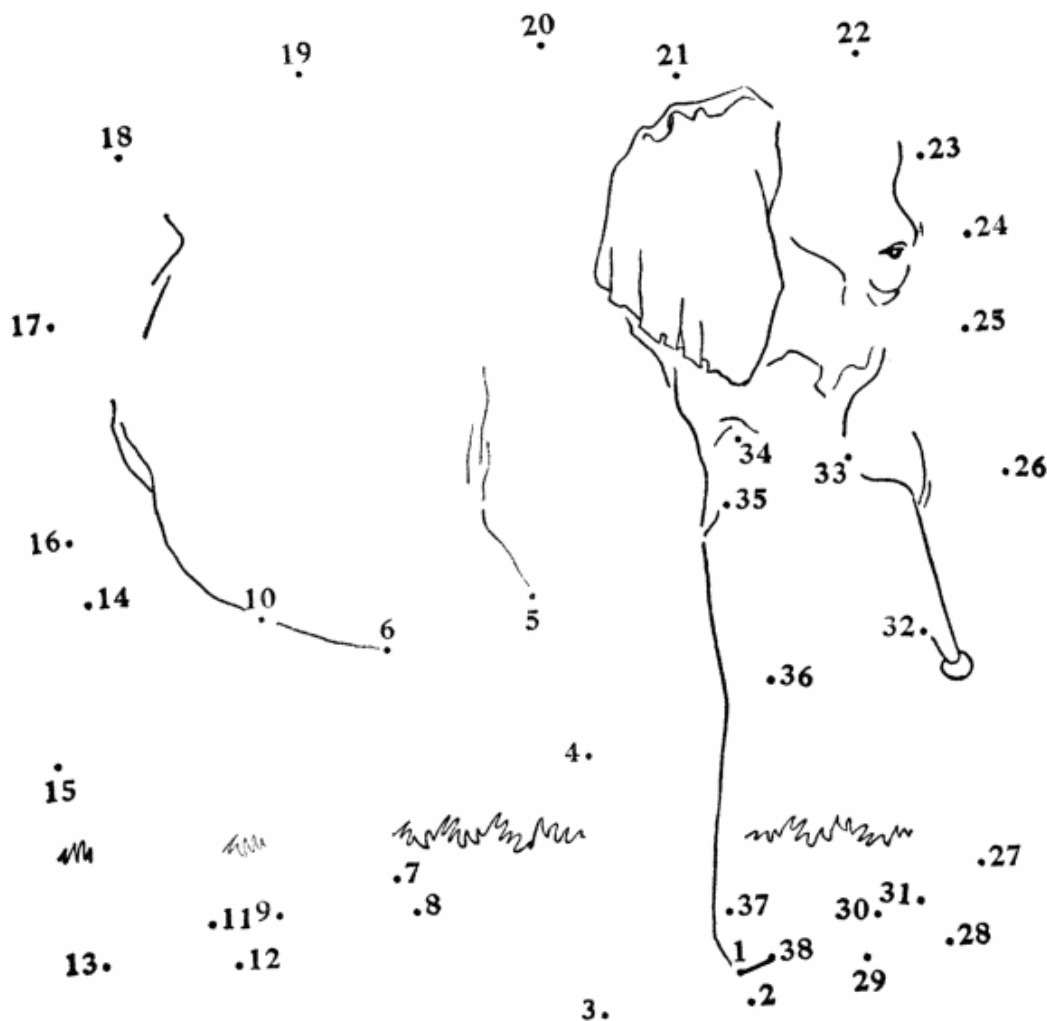
14) Why are orang-utans endangered?

- A) Because rainforests in Indonesia are being cut down
- B) Because they are being killed by humans
- C) Because baby orangutans are taken to be sold as pets
- D) All these reasons



Join the Dots

Joint the dots to see another Asian animal affected by the deforestation caused by palm oil plantations.



Puzzle

Unscramble each of the clue words.

Copy the letters in the numbered cells to other cells with the same number to find the hidden message!

NUATOAGNR

2							9		

SALNINPOTTA

5											10

MALP LOI

						7	8

			11

GESTIR

4						

LAHNETPES

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TIENXCT

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TISTOENEADOFR

1											12			

BATTIAH

						6	

1	2	3	4

5	6	7	8

9	10

11	12	12

Did you know?

Fast facts about Palm Oil

Over 85% of the world's palm oil comes from Malaysia and Indonesia.



Palm Oil typically costs the lives of up to 50 Orang-utans each week!

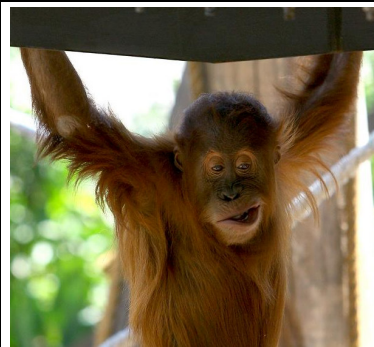
An estimated 40% of supermarket ingredients contain Palm Oil. However without adequate labelling, it is difficult to be sure and many assume that the figure is much higher.



Indonesia appeared in the Guinness Book of world records as the country with the fastest rate of deforestation in the world

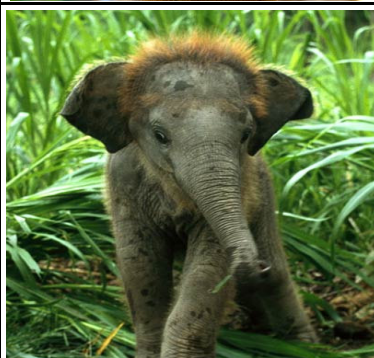


In SE Asia alone, the equivalent of 300 football fields are deforested every hour for palm oil production

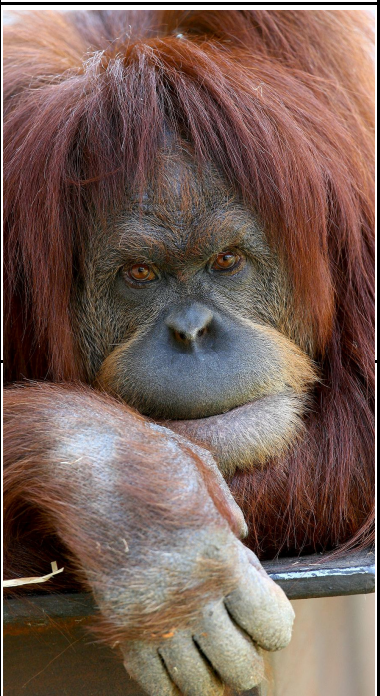


Indonesia aims to almost double the 6.5million hectares under palm oil plantation in the next 5-8 years

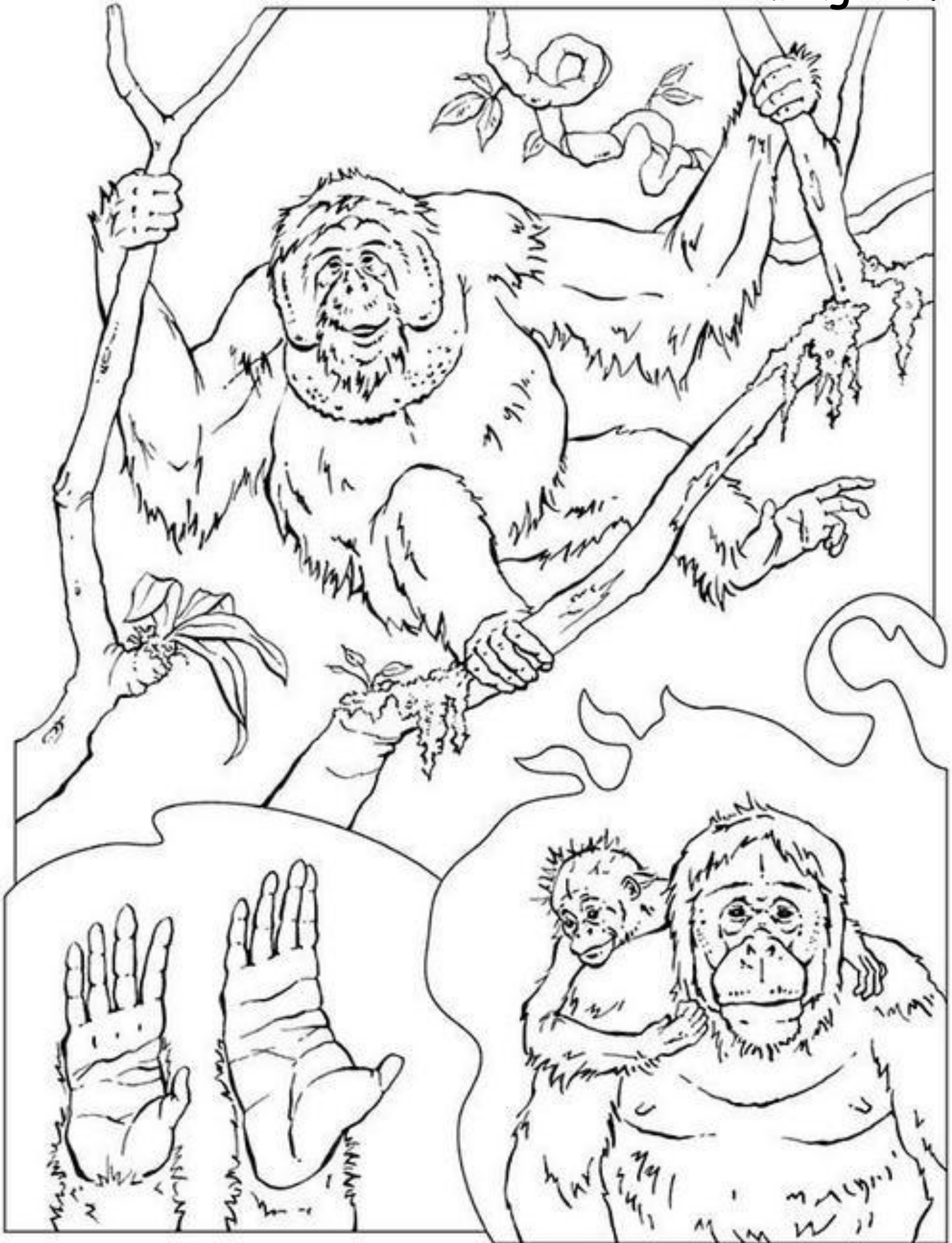
Orang-utan experts predict that these extraordinary animals will be extinct in the wild within 20 years.



Palm Oil deforestation affects already endangered species like the Orang-utans, Asian Elephant, Asian Rhinoceros, and the Sumatran Tiger



Australians unknowingly consume on average 10 kilograms of palm oil each year because we do not currently have the ability to exercise consumer choice!



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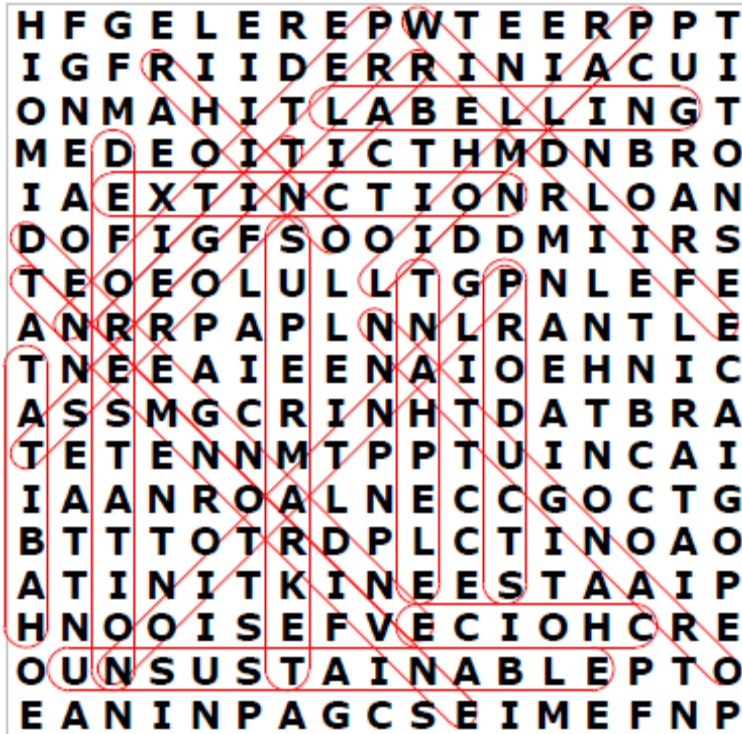
You can make a world of difference

The Answers...

Crack the Code

Due to palm oil plantations experts predict that orang-utans will be extinct in the wild within 20 years. Do you know what oils you have been eating lately?

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
21	7	24	8	14	4	12	22	18	13	23	1	10	11	5	15	19	2	17	16	6	26	3	17	9	20



Word Scramble Puzzle

NUATOAGER = ORANGUTAN
 SALNINPOTTA = PLANTATION
 MALPLOI = PALM OIL
 GESTIR = TIGERS
 LAHNETPES = ELEPHANTS
 TIENXCT = EXTINCT
 TISTOENEADOFR = DEFORESTATION
 BATTIAH = HABITAT

DON'T PALM US OFF

Take the Quiz—Answers

- 1) Man of the Forest—The original expression is Indonesian and interestingly the local people make little distinction between the orang-utan and the tribal people who live in the forest.
- 2) 97% - It was once believed that they were our closest relatives due to their ability to walk upright, but actually other apes share more of our DNA.
- 3) Bonobo - The bonobo is a pygmy chimp which lives in the Congo. It was once thought to be a variant of a 'normal' chimp, but they are a different species.
- 4) Borneo and Sumatra
- 5) Enlarged cheeks - The Borneo dominant males grow enormous cheek pouches which are thought to be for display. The Sumatran males do not have the pouches and have to rely on their physical size to impress!
- 6) To be kept as pets - Often local people think they are doing the young animal a favour, but the animals often get abandoned after they become too large to feed and accommodate.
- 7) Nests—Orang-Utans may build 4 or 5 nests a day to rest or sleep in. They will never reuse a nest. Given that an adult male can weigh twice what a human can, it shows what experts builders they are.
- 8) True - They will only continue to thrive if their natural habitat isn't destroyed by deforestation.
- 9) Orang-utans live up to 45 years in the wild. The oldest orangutan in captivity lived for 58 years at Philadelphia Zoo!
- 10) Baby orang-utans stay with their mother until they are 7 or 8 years old when they leave to find their own territory - longer than any other mammal except humans!
- 11) Orang-utans are *frugivorous* which means that nearly all their food comes from fruit. They also sometimes eat flowers, leaves, bark, honey and insects
- 12) Male orang-utans can be up to 1.5 metres tall and weigh up to 120kg (heavier than an average adult human). Females are a lot smaller; they can be up to 1 metre tall and weigh up to 45kg.
- 13) Only 7,000 Sumatran orang-utans are left on the island of Sumatra. The Sumatran orang-utan is Critically Endangered, and may be extinct in less than 10 years unless people help to protect them.
- 14) The main reason orang-utans are endangered is the logging of the forests they live in for wood and to clear land to grow palm oil, but they are also killed by farmers who see them as pests and babies are often stolen to be sold as pets.